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Grand opening for new coffee venue, Highbies

Summary: Festivities on November 1 include giveaways of Highbies gift certificates and T-shirts, and Caribou tumblers.

(October 30, 2011)-The University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) will celebrate the addition of a new coffee venue on campus, Highbies, with a grand opening on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. The festivities will include giveaways of Highbies gift certificates and T-shirts, and Caribou tumblers. Drinks will be \$.50 off the regular price from 2 until 4 p.m. Located in the Student Center information area, Highbies is an inviting space for students, faculty, staff, and the public to get a cup of classic Caribou Coffee, a variety of teas, or one of many specialty beverages.

“Highbies dramatically changes the whole Student Center experience,” says David Swenson, director of student activities. “The welcoming aroma of brewing coffee and Highbies’ sophisticated appearance make a great first impression on visitors and prospective students, as well as providing a pleasant amenity for the campus community.”

The name of the new venue, Highbies, is a nod to campus history. Edger Creighton Higbie was the first superintendent of the University of Minnesota West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station, a boarding high school that made its home on the Morris campus from 1910 until 1963.

The establishment of Highbies on campus is the result of UMM negotiating an “upgrade” of dining facilities and options in its current contract with the dining services provider, Sodexo. Last year, Sodexo provided the funding for the Dining Hall renovation. This summer and fall’s project was the creation of Highbies. The company will begin renovating Turtle Mountain Cafe during Thanksgiving break with the project to be completed by January 2012.

The hours of operation for Highbies are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. until midnight Saturday, 10 a.m. until midnight and Sunday, noon until midnight. For visitors, free parking is available in visitor spaces during the academic week from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Parking is free in all lots during evenings and on weekends. There are also a few 20-minute parking spots just outside the Student Center on Cougar Circle.

Choosing to brew Caribou Coffee reflects UMM’s goal to seek and employ sustainability efforts. The company supports the ongoing and sustainable production of coffee. For each pound of coffee purchased, Caribou Coffee allocates funds to support socially responsible initiatives in coffee-producing communities that include water-cleaning programs and reforestation efforts. Eighty-percent of Caribou coffees are Rainforest Alliance Certified. The company’s goal is 100 percent Rainforest Alliance Certified by the end of 2011.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility

in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.